

DEPARTMENT OF SECONDARY EDUCATION NEWSLETTER

April - June 2017 Issue

Dates to Remember!

Spring Break
3/27/17 - 4/2/17

**Good Friday (University
Closed)**
4/14/17

Study Day
5/4/17

Semester Exams
5/5-5/10

Commencement
5/13/17

May Intersession
5/15/17 - 6/1/17

Memorial Day
5/29/17

Summer Term I
5/5/17 - 5/28/17

Summer Term II
7/3/17 - 7/27/17

Important Links

[Department of Education and
Human Sciences](#)

[Visit our webpage!](#)

[Like us on Facebook!](#)



Department of Secondary Education Our Faculty

(From Left to Right) Dr. Jeff Cornelius, Associate Professor; Dr. Felecia Harris, Associate Professor; Dr. Jessica Mitchell, Assistant Professor; Dr. Lamont Maddox, Associate Professor; Dr. Joy Brown, Professor; Dr. Leah Whitten, Associate Professor/Department Chair; Dr. Gary Padgett, Associate Professor

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A BIG Congratulations to Ms. Victoria Roose, Miss UNA 2017



Victoria Roose was crowned Miss UNA 2017 on January 21st. Victoria is a Secondary Education major concentrating in Music. She is the Drum Major for the Pride of Dixie Marching Band, and is also part of the UNA Wind Ensemble, Symphonic Band and UNA Studio Jazz Band. Her platform is “Note to Self: Confidence through Music”.

Victoria will represent UNA at the Miss Alabama Pageant in Birmingham at the Samford University Wright Center June 7-10, 2017.

We are very proud to have Victoria Roose in the College of Education and Human Sciences! Way to go, Victoria!

To learn more about Ms. Victoria Roose, Miss UNA, and the other runners-up and contestants, visit

<https://www.una.edu/students/miss-una/index.html>.

**Congratulations to all
participants on a
*Job Well Done!***



The **LEAD** Initiative

The Instructional Leadership Department has been busy recruiting graduate students for both Masters and Education Specialist Degrees. The LEAD Initiative represents a creative means of boosting enrollment and is yet another example of the University's efforts to work cooperatively with area school systems in helping educators complete graduate coursework that will prove beneficial to their career development.

Partnerships have been developed with Colbert County, Florence City, Lauderdale County, Muscle Shoals City, Sheffield City, Russellville City and Tuscumbia City. Additional partnerships with other

systems are currently being pursued to further boost graduate enrollment. If you feel your school district may be interested, please contact us. Contact information is listed below.

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Tools for the Teacher Toolbox

Teaching is an amazing field where every day is different. The best teachers see their classes not as a group of identical students, but as individuals with a wide variety of strengths and weaknesses. The most successful teachers have learned to recognize these individual traits and build upon them. For a preservice teacher, it is extremely important to build a teacher toolbox with a variety of experiences to help them to work with any student. The Teacher Education Program (TEP) is structured to give preservice teachers a wide variety of experiences, but there are additional ways to grow the teacher toolbox. When I was 15, I began to volunteer with the Red Cross teaching swimming lessons. In addition to the regular classes, I worked with Adapted Aquatics where we taught students with special needs how to swim. It was amazing to see a child with limited mobility be able to swim across the pool.

I continued to teach swimming throughout my college years. When I took EEX 340 (Introduction to Students with Disabilities), I had first-hand knowledge of many types of disabilities. Although it was not my field, my first full-time job was in a high school special education position. When I began teaching in my field, I always had students with special needs in my classes. Some were formally diagnosed and some were not. I had to find ways to meet the needs of each one. Now my experiences with special needs are even more personal. Of my three children, one has an IEP (Individual Education Plan), one has a GEP (Gifted Education Plan), and one has a Medical Plan which will become a 504 Plan in August. I have relied on previous experiences to help guide me through all of these challenges.

While not everyone wants to teach swimming, there are many other ways to learn about children with special needs and build your teacher toolbox. One way is to volunteer with organizations that support children with special needs such as the

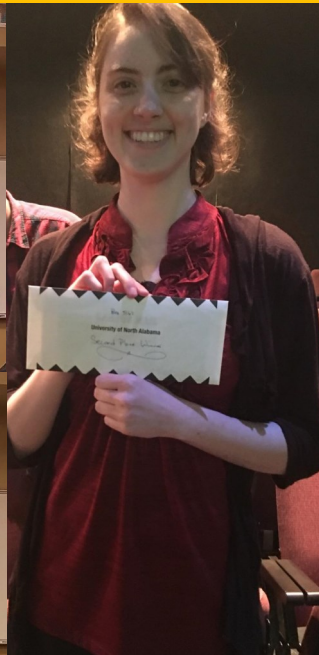
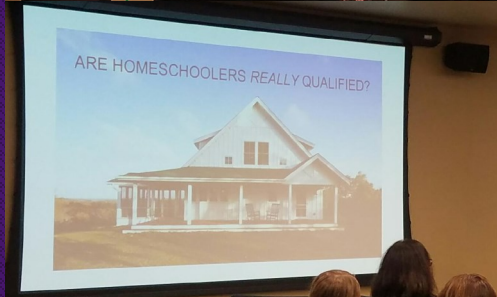
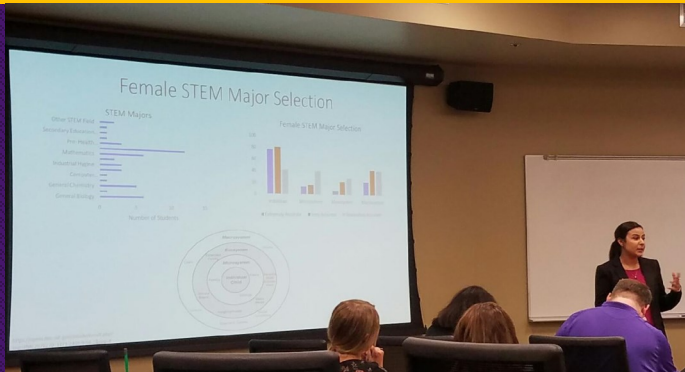
Special Olympics, Bringing Up Downs Syndrome (BUDS), the United Cerebral Palsy Center (UCP), Hope Horses, or one of the many other organizations. Most of these organizations have special events where they need volunteers and, through these events, you will meet a variety of wonderful people. One of my best learning experiences in recent years has been the Full Life Ahead Camp (fulllifeahead.org). It is a camp for teens and young adults with special needs and we attend it as a family three times a year (February, June, and November). College-aged students from all over Alabama volunteer as counselors and these counselors are assigned to assist various campers and/or their younger siblings. It is a weekend camp at Children's Harbor on Lake Martin near Alexander City where you get to know people with special needs and their families.

For a whole summer experience, Camp ASSCA near Auburn hires counselors every year. Camp ASSCA is a camp which is dedicated to working with campers with special needs. For a shorter experience at Camp ASSCA, Dr. Hall from the Department of Health, Physical Education, and Recreation takes a group of UNA students for a one week session in May as counselors as a part of his SRM 444/544 (Recreation for Special Populations) class.

As a preservice teacher, it is important to have the best teacher toolbox possible. Not only will it help to prepare for future students, it also helps to have a list of experiences to make a resume stand out from other job applicants. In my many years in education, those first years of volunteer work still serve as a strong foundation for my work.

~Dr. Joy Brown

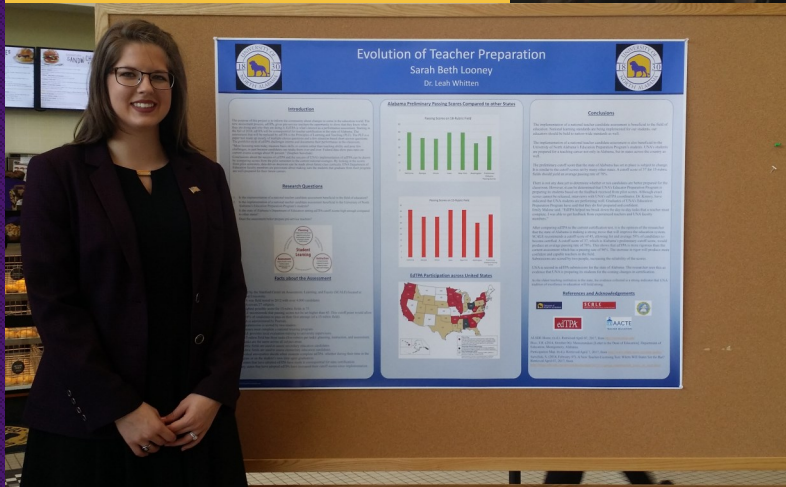
2017 Research Days



The Department of Secondary Education was well represented during the 2017 Research Days for the Three Minute Thesis and the Poster Presentations with three outstanding students, Candice Gonzalez, Michelle Veach & Sarah Beth Looney.



Candice won the COEHS competition, as well as the People's Choice award and continued on to the university competition. Michelle won second place in the university competition.



Sarah Beth presented an outstanding and well-designed poster with the research findings of the Evolution of Teacher Preparation. Secondary Education Department Chair, Dr. Leah Whitten mentored during the research process, helping her obtain all of the information presented.

KAPPA DELTA PI

2017 Honor Society Initiation

The UNA Epsilon Psi Chapter 2017 Inductees

Sarah Rae Aycock

Alyssa Baldwin

Harper Canaday

Emily Cater

Nolan B. Coffey

Jessica Lyn Danielowicz

Nena Dial

Melinda Ann Duncan

Shannon Nicole Dutton

Brigida Foote

Mark A. Gajewski II

Holli Akins Gaston

Ashton Givens

Brooklyn K. Godwin

Kirklynn Hamby

Brianne Hargrove

Taylor Head

Karlee Ivey

Eria Jackson

Madison Jacobs

Holly Jolly

Marguerite Elizabeth

Jones

Abby Paige Keener

LaManda King

Brenna Lambert

Kelly Ann Laster

Keri L. Lewis

Terica Lewis-Hicks

Ashden Maner

Ali May

Julie McDonald

Emma McFall

Lillian Margaret Mitchell

Lindsey Ann Monroe

Anna Claire Mosley

Savannah Ogletree

Holly Elizabeth Persell

Olivia Privett

Brittany Rogers

Mary Frances Rye

Monday Sanderson

Joseph Daniel Seay

David M. Sellers

Danielle Nicole Smith

Carolyn Strong

Emily Kathlene Taylor

Autumn Joy Horton

Katie Beth Turner

Laura Ann Waddell

Erica Faith Walker

Samantha Michele

Weems

Emily Caroline Woods

Sara Elizabeth Wright

**Congratulations to all who were inducted into the
UNA Epsilon Psi Kappa Delta Pi Honor Society!**

CHECK IT OUT...

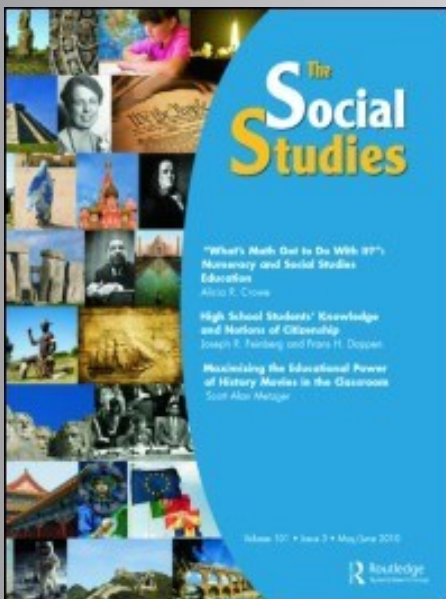
Associate Professor, Dr. Lamont Maddox, and his colleague have published an article in The Social Studies. Check out the link below for the full article.

[Using Hybrid Assessments to Develop Civic Competency in History](#)

Lamont E. Maddox & John W. Saye

Lamont E. Maddox & John W. Saye (2017) Using Hybrid Assessments to Develop Civic Competency in History, *The Social Studies*, 108:2, 55-71, DOI: 10.1080/00377996.2017.1283288

<http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/00377996.2017.1283288>



The Social Studies

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(Online) Journal homepage: <http://www.tandfonline.com/loi/vtss20>

Alumni Spotlight

Samantha Hammond

Samantha Hammond is an alumnus of the UNA Department of Secondary, and holds a degree in Secondary Education English Language Arts. While at UNA, she served as an ambassador for LaGrange Society and was a member of Alpha Lambda Delta and Phi Kappa Phi Honor societies.



Samantha now teaches 8th grade English at Florence Middle School and serves as student council assistant sponsor and 8th grade cheerleading sponsor.

Samantha is passionate about investing in the lives of middle schoolers, and she strives to implement best practices in her lessons. She has collaborated with educators at the Assembly on Literature for Adolescents of the National Council for Teachers of English conference, and she currently works with instructional partners and teachers within the Florence Learning Community Network as well as teachers in districts across the state.

CONGRATULATIONS FOR BEING SELECTED AS THE ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT!

April Student of the Month

Anna Kate West



My name is Anna Kate West, and I am majoring in Secondary Education/ Social Science. I plan to graduate in May of 2017, and I am very excited about beginning my teaching career! I hope to find a job somewhere in North Alabama. UNA has been the greatest blessing and has more than prepared me to succeed in my very own classroom. Because I chose education, I will always be a lifelong learner and I am excited to see where that may take me!

CONGRATULATIONS FOR BEING SELECTED AS THE APRIL STUDENT OF THE MONTH!

May Student of the Month

Holli Akins Gaston



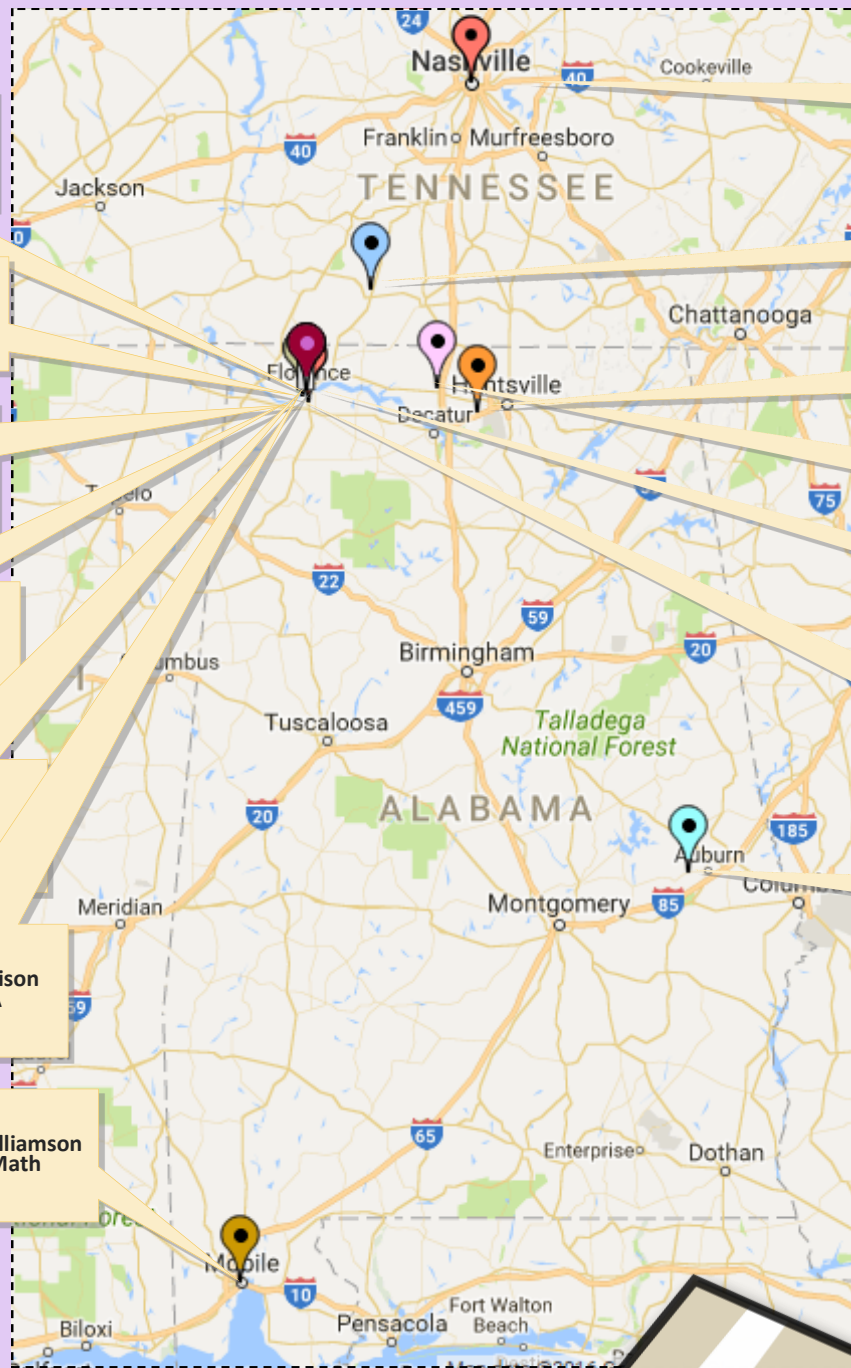
Holli Gaston is a current Alternative A Master's student, pursuing certification in English/Language Arts. Holli practiced law in Tuscumbia, Alabama for ten years prior to pursuing her lifelong dream of becoming an educator. Holli is scheduled to graduate in December 2018 and is looking forward to obtaining employment in a local school system. After teaching for the requisite number of years, Holli plans on continuing her education to obtain her Ed.S. in Administration. Holli resides in Muscle Shoals, Alabama with her two children, Raley and Parks.

CONGRATULATIONS FOR BEING SELECTED AS THE MAY STUDENT OF THE MONTH!

Where Are They Now?

Our recent graduates are really going places.

Check out where some of them have continued their careers down below!



Jordan Ellis—Muscle Shoals Middle School, ELA

Brian Jay—Florence City Schools, Band Director

Sara Chaffin—Florence High School, Science

Katherine Albright - St. Joseph Regional Catholic School, ELA

Samantha Hammond - Florence Middle School, ELA

Aubree White - Jemison High School, ELA

Elizabeth Kee - Williamson High School, Math

Jacob Westerhouse—Davidson Academy, Social Studies

Zach McMasters - Lawrence County High School, ELA

Anna Glosemeyer - St. John the Baptist Catholic School, ELA

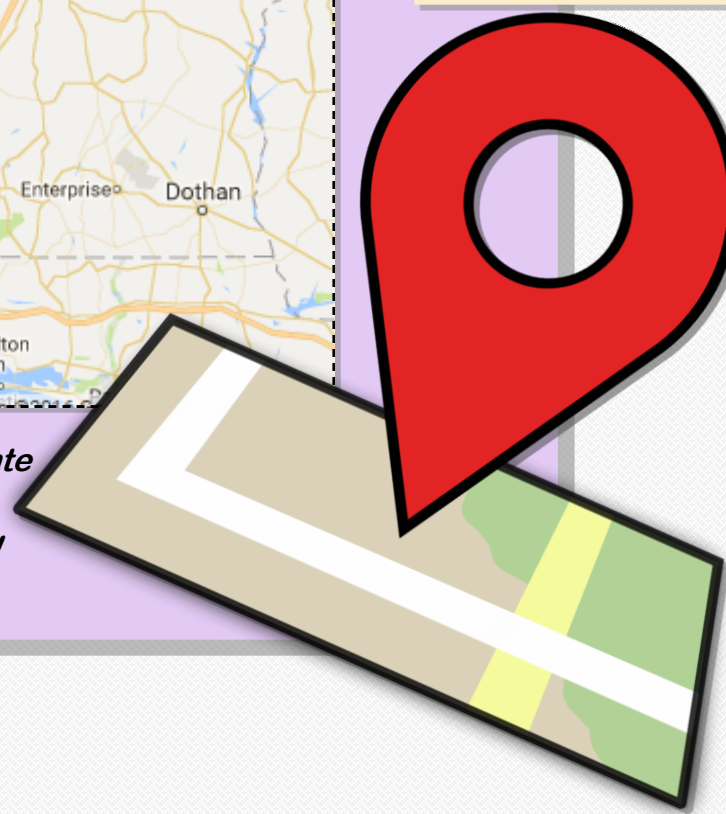
Kyle Crabtree - Athens High School, Social Studies

Jennifer Jay - Sheffield City Schools, Band Director

Morgan Massey - Sheffield High School, Science

Rainbow Arnold Sidwell - Loachapoka High School, Math

*Are you a UNA Secondary Education graduate with a teaching position?
Let us know! We would love to keep track!
Email us at jholt3@una.edu!*



Who Said It?

Can you guess who said these inspiring quotes about education?

1. "Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world."
 - A. Nelson Mandela
 - B. Helen Keller
 - C. Gandhi
2. "The roots of education are bitter, but the fruit is sweet."
 - A. Albert Einstein
 - B. Aristotle
 - C. Benjamin Franklin
3. "An investment in knowledge pays the best interest."
 - A. Benjamin Franklin
 - B. Nelson Mandela
 - C. John F. Kennedy
4. "The highest result of education is tolerance."
 - A. Mark Twain
 - B. C.S. Lewis
 - C. Helen Keller
5. "I am not a teacher, but an awakener."
 - A. Maya Angelou
 - B. Robert Frost
 - C. Plato

Something to Brag About

- Congratulations to Candice Gonzales for winning the college-wide 3MT *and* the People's Choice award!
- Michelle Veach won 2nd place in the University-wide competition.
- Dr. Lamont Maddox and his colleague were selected as one of the 3 finalists for the Social Studies Research SIG's Outstanding Paper Award. Their paper was one of the 3 highest rated papers.

Important Dates

March 27-April 2	University Closed - Spring Break
April 10-12	UNA Spring Research Symposium
April 14	University Closed - Holiday
April 19	End of "WP/WF" Period - Last day to withdraw from a class or all classes
May 4	Study Day
May 5-10	Semester Exams
May 13	Commencement
May 14	Residence Halls close at 12 noon

Make sure you mark your calendar!



"Who Said It?" Answer Key:

1. A; 2. B; 3. A; 4. C; 5. B